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Title: Regarding renaming of Assam to Asom.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL (DIBRUGARH): Sir I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Members of the House for an urgent public matter regarding Assam Government's and the legislature's resolution for changing the name of Assam State from Assam to Asom. The said decision was taken without any broad-based consensus of the Assamese people and its intelligentsia.

The Government of Assam's premise that the name `Assam' being coined by the British and the same being hence a colonial legacy and the same `Asom' being the original name of Assam is totally false and is not supported by any historical facts and records.

The name `Assam' is an original name of the State which is continuously in use for the last 800 years as the main external identifier word for Assam. The name `Assam' in itself is a heritage that needs to be retained as Assam is already established worldwide as `Assam' only.

Since it is only the Parliament which has the power to change or alter the name of any State of the Indian Union as per Article 3 of the Constitution of India, I sincerely appeal to the hon. Members of the Parliament House for not to pass any Bill for changing the name of the Assam State. This will save our already problem ridden State from further problem.

I hope and trust that the hon. Members will go through the facts and take steps in the right direction.